

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-11 have been amended for clarity. It is believed that support for the amendments is provided at least in the original claims.

Claims 1, 4-6, and 8-11 stand rejected, under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Voyer (US 2001/0027112). Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Voyer in view of Nakano et al. (US 5,933,782). Claim 7 stands rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Voyer in view of Sakoda et al. (US 2003/0199275). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections based on the points set forth below.

With regard to the rejection of claim 7, the Applicants note that Sakoda is applied as a section 102(e) reference, since its publication date is after Applicants' PCT filing date and its filing date is after Applicants' foreign priority date of September 19, 2002. Applicants enclose an English translation of their Japanese priority document with a statement that the translation is accurate for the purpose of disqualifying Sakoda as a prior art reference.

With regard to the rejections of independent claims 1 and 9, the Applicants note that Voyer discloses a base station that, in accordance with transmit power control commands TPC_1 - TPC_N transmitted respectively from mobile stations SM_1 - SM_N , performs transmit power control individually for signals e_1 - e_N for the mobile stations. Then, the base station divides the signals after the transmit power control into groups 1-K, adds the signals to generate composite signals S_{C1} - S_{CK} , and attenuates the composite signals S_{C1} - S_{CK} by attenuation coefficients α_1 - α_K . Voyer also discloses that signals e_1 - e_N can be signals dedicated to any one mobile station or to a set of the mobile stations SM_1 - SM_N (see Voyer ¶ [0035]).

However, Voyer does not disclose the feature recited in claims 1 and 9 whereby each of a plurality of mobile stations transmits both a first TPC command for a downlink common channel and a second TPC command for a downlink dedicated channel to a base station through an uplink dedicated channel. In other words, Voyer does not disclose transmitting two different TPC commands from a single mobile station through a single and same channel.

With regard to independent claims 6 and 10, the Office Action proposes that Voyer discloses limiting transmit powers for signals e_1 - e_N to a maximum transmit power P_{i_max} (see Office Action

page 4, lines 7-13). However, it is submitted that Voyer does not disclose the feature recited in claims 6 and 10 of controlling the transmit power of a downlink common channel to a maximum transmit power of a downlink dedicated channel after transmit power control or to transmit power of the maximum transmit power with an addition of an offset.

With regard to independent claims 8 and 11, it is submitted that Voyer does not disclose the claimed feature whereby each of a plurality of mobile stations transmits a TPC command for a downlink dedicated channel and a signal indicating the amount of increase of transmit power of a downlink common channel to a base station through an uplink dedicated channel or uplink random access channel.

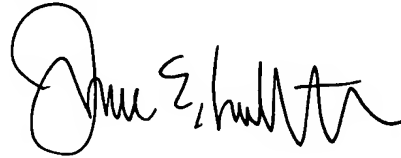
Accordingly, the Applicants submit that Voyer does not anticipate the subject matter defined by independent claims 1, 6, and 8-11. Therefore, allowance of claims 1, 6, and 8-11 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone

the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Ledbetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Date: September 12, 2006
JEL/DWW/att

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